

REMARKS

The present invention relates to an adhesive label comprising a circuit substrate, electronic component formed on at least one surface of the circuit substrate, and an adhesive layer on the electronic component; the adhesive layer can be applied to an article.

1. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has not returned a signed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 that was filed with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement of November 19, 2003. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the Form and return a dated form to Applicants in the next PTO communication.

2. Office Action Dated March 17, 2004

In the Office Action dated March 17, 2004, claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite, with respect to the significance of "a surface layer" in claims 5 and 7, and the phrase "said surface layer" in claim 6. Further, claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Tanimura et al. (US 6,065,701) in view of "Applicants' admission."

Regarding the 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 5 and 7, Applicants respectfully traverse for at least the following reasons.

Although a circuit substrate of claim 1 inherently has two surfaces, it does not inherently have two surface layers, as asserted by the Examiner. This distinction is clearly illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, in which the adhesive label in Figure 2 has a surface layer.

Claim 1 does not require a surface layer on a circuit surface that is on the reverse side to a surface carrying the electronic element, whereas claims 5 and 7 do; therefore claims 5 and 7 do further limit the base claim.

Regarding claim 6, Applicants have in the Amendment amended claim 6 to replace "said surface layer" with --a surface layer--.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the §112 rejection.

Turning to the §103 rejection, Applicants have in the Amendment amended claim 1 to positively recite that --when said adhesive label is applied to an article, said adhesive layer comes into direct contact with the surface of the article--. See Figures 1 and 2 of the present specification.

In contrast, the pressure sensitive adhesive layer 15 in Tanimura et al does not come into direct contact with the surface of the video cassette tape 2, and Applicants' alleged admission does not rectify the deficiencies of Tanimura et al.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants attach herewith following Figures A and B.

Figure A illustrates the embodiment as shown in Figure 2 of Tanimura et al, whereas Figure B illustrates the embodiment of the present invention as shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the present application:

FIG. A

**Tanimura Reference
(Fig. 2)**

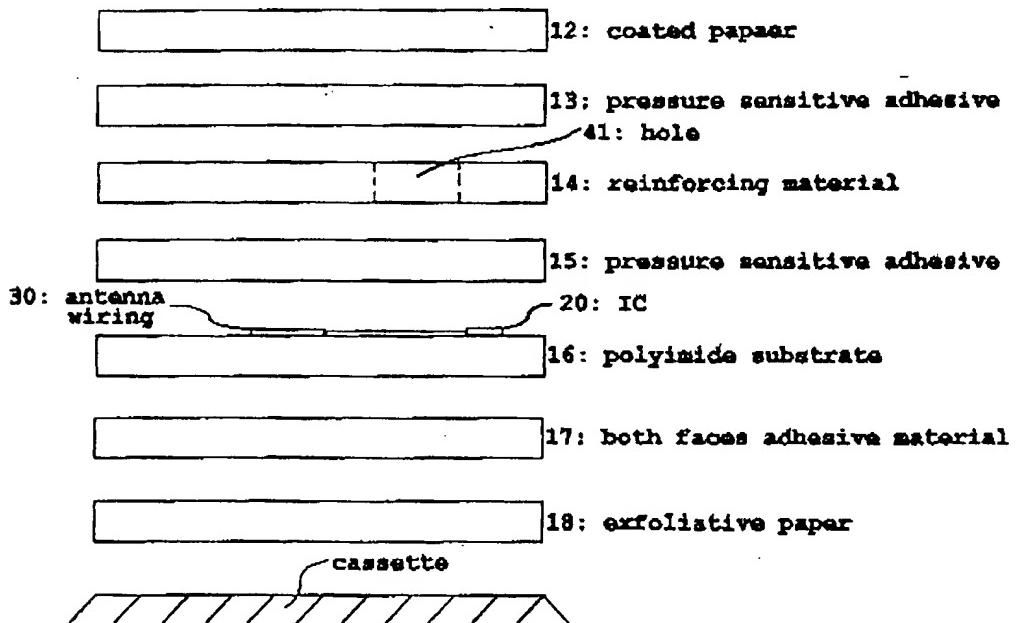
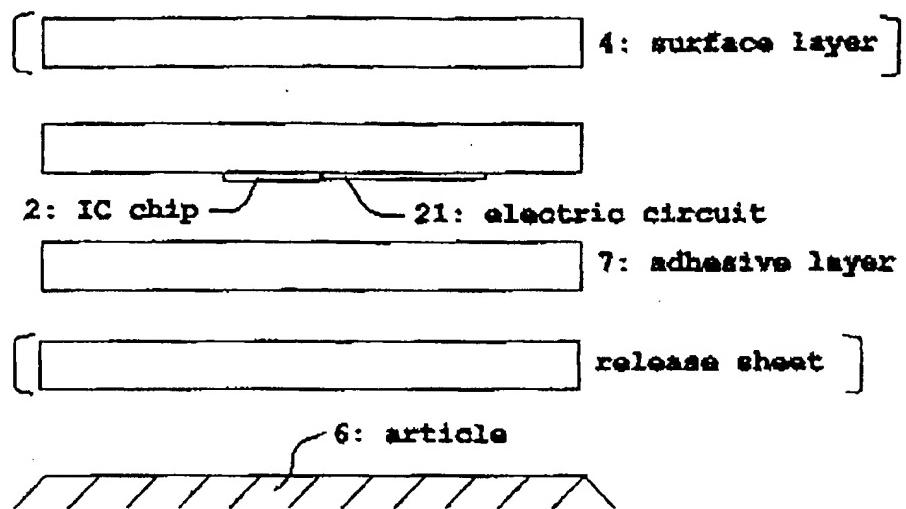


FIG. B

**Present Invention
(Fig.1 or Fig.2)**



The circuit substrate 1 in the present invention has multiple functions including all of the functions of the polyimide substrate 16, the coated paper, the pressure sensitive adhesive 13, and the reinforcing material 14 of Tanimura et al.

Further, the surface carrying the IC chip 2 and the electric circuit 21 on the circuit substrate 1 of the present invention is the side opposite to the surface carrying the IC 20 and the antenna wiring 30 on the polyimide substrate 16 of Tanimura et al. That is, the surface carrying the IC chip 2 and the electric circuit 21 on the circuit substrate 1 of the present invention faces the surface of the article 6, whereas the surface carrying the IC 20 and the antenna wiring 30 on

the polyimide substrate 16 of Tanimura et al does not face the surface of the cassette, as illustrated in the comparative prior art embodiment shown in Figure 3 of the present application. For these reasons, the adhesive label of the present invention can be far thinner than the cassette label of Tanimura et al.

In view of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not obvious over the cited reference, and the §103 rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

As noted above, the Office Action dated March 17, 2004 did not set a shortened statutory period for reply. Accordingly, the statutory period of six months for reply applies, making this Amendment due on or before September 17, 2004. During a telephone conversation with the Examiner on September 15, 2004, the Examiner agreed with consent from his supervisor that the statutory period of six months for reply applies. Thus, no petition and no payment for extension of time are necessary.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 09/830,605

Attorney Docket Q64273

Nevertheless, the USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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